

STATE OF NEW MEXICO OFFICE OF THE STATE ENGINEER

DISTRICT 1

TOM BLAINE, P.E.
NEW MEXICO STATE ENGINEER

5550 San Antonio Drive, N.E. Albuquerque, NM 87109 (505) 383-4000

May 15, 2017

File No.: 1605 and B-28

Homestake Mining Company c/o Thomas Wohlford P.O. Box 98 Grants, NM 87020

RE: PLUGGING PLAN OF OPERATION B-28 POD407

Mr. Wohlford,

On May 10, 2017 the Office of the State Engineer (OSE) received a "Plugging Plan of Operations" for the plugging and abandonment of B-28 POD407 (aka HMC 926). The details of the plan identify the driller will plug the well from 0-feet to 324-feet below ground surface. A search for the well record at the OSE had no results. The well record was not submitted. The total depth of the well is listed as 864-feet in the "2016 Annual Performance Report" of Homestake Mining Company. Further action is needed to complete the plan.

- 1. <u>NMAC 19.27.4.29</u> states the well record shall be filed with the State no later than twenty (20) days after completion. Please submit the well record.
- 2. <u>NMAC 19.27.4.37</u> allows for a Request for Variance. The Plugging Plan did not contain a request to deviate from the requirements to plug the well from the total depth to the surface. A detailed description of the methods and materials with alternatives to plug the well according to state statutes from the bottom up must accompany the plugging plan.

Please note that as a condition of approval for the plugging of B-28 POD407, OSE personnel will be required to witness the plugging.

Sincerely,

Christopher Burrus

Water Resource Specialist Albuquerque, OSE, District 1

C: CB/cb Cc: WRAB;

William Pearson, NMED, MECS